

REMARKS

Summary of Office Action

Claims 1 and 3-51 are pending in this application.

Claims 8-10, 16, 21, 22, and 30-40 are withdrawn.

Claims 1, 3-7, 11-15, 17-20, 23-29, and 41-51 are subject to election.

The Examiner required applicants to elect for prosecution one of the following allegedly patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Species IA, referring to FIGS. 1 and 3; and

Species IB, referring to FIG. 2.

Applicant's Reply

Applicant elects Species 1B with traverse, referring to FIG. 2, for initial substantive examination.

Claims 1, 3-7, 11-15, 17-20, 23-29, and 41-51 read upon FIG. 2. Claims 1, 3-7, 11-15, 17-20, 23-29, and 41-51, however, may read upon additional figures and portions of the specification not embodied in FIG. 2. For this reason, claims 1, 3-7, 11-15, 17-20, 23-29, and 41-51 should be construed in the context of the entire specification as filed -- not just the elected figures.

Applicant's election of FIGS. 2 was made to aid the

Examiner in conducting a reasonable search -- not to limit the scope of claims 1, 3-7, 11-15, 17-20, 23-29, and 41-51 to the embodiment illustrated in FIG. 2. Therefore, applicant will continue to prosecute claims 1, 3-7, 11-15, 17-20, 23-29, and 41-51 in light of the entire specification.

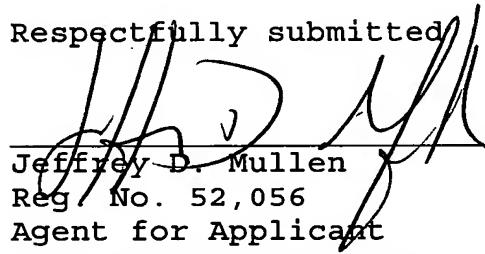
Applicant has elected a single species, species 1B, thereby meeting the requirement of MPEP § 809.

Conclusion

Applicant has elected for examination a single species of the claimed invention as required by the Examiner.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees required in connection with this Response to Deposit Account No. 06-1075, order number 000832-036. A duplicate copy of this paper is being submitted herewith. An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted


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